

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SWF-02 CU-04 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 DRC-01

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R 311955Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2726

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 2285

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PA

SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

REF: STATE 99106

1. THERE IS RELATIVELY LITTLE WHICH WE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE POLICY REVIEW REGARDING NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES' ACTIVITIES, BASED ON EXPERIENCE WITH THE FRIENDLY AND CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT OF PARAGUAY (GOP). AS THE GOP UNDER STROESSNER REPEATEDLY HAS SHOWN, IT IS ANXIOUS TO COOPERATE WITH THE GOP IN A BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS RANGING FROM REGIONAL SUCH AS OAS (CUBAN ISSUE) TO THE UNGA (KOREA) AND SPECIALIZED AGENICES (E.G., GRUNK AND PRG CRE-DENTIALS AT GENEVA). FURTHERMORE, THE GOP FOR BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN-POLICY REASONS HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE FREQUENTLY STRIDENT AND (IN GOP EYES) "LEFTIST" VIEWS OF MOST COUNTRIES CALLING THEMSELVES NON-ALIGNED AND THIRD WORLD.

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2. FROM OUR LIMITED VIEWPOINT IN ASUNCION, WE WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THE IDEA CONTAINED IN REFTEL PARA 4(C), I.E., THAT THE USG ACCORD BENEFITS OR COSTS AS APPROPRIATE. THE ONLY RECENT INSTANCE IN WHICH THE GOP FAILED TO COOPERATE WITH THE USG ON A MATTER OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE (A 1972 NARCOTICS EXTRADITION) WAS RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY AND WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY FOR THE US ONLY AFTER THE GOP FINALLY WAS MADE AWARE OF THE HIGH COST IT FACED IN LOSS OF U.S. AID. OBVIOUSLY THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES HERE INCLUDING NO HOSTAGE US INVESTMENTS, NO LEGAL LEFTIST PARTIES, AND DOCILE LABOR, STUDENT GROUPS, AND MEDIA, LEND THEMSELVES TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION OF SUCH A TOUGH US POLICY HERE. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS TO US THAT A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES (INCLUDING SOME IN G-77 OR NACG) MAY FALL INTO THE SAME CATEGORY AS PARAGUAY INsofar AS RESPONSIVENESS TO PRESSURE OR INDUCEMENT IS CONCERNED. THIS SUGGESTS THAT A HARDNOSED, QUID PRO QUO APPROACH TO SUCH SELECTED COUNTRIES COULD BE USEFUL IN BLUNTING THE THRUST OF BLOC LDC ACTIVITIES INIMICAL TO USG INTERESTS.

3. (A) RE PARA 4(B), AGAIN AS SEEN FROM ASUNCION, WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT CAN IMPROVE A GREAT DEAL ON MEANINGFUL ADVANCE CONSULTATION. WE HAVE BEEN STRUCK BY A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS WHEN WE HAVE RECEIVED URGENT CIRCULAR INSTRUCTIONS TO APPROACH THE HOST GOVERNMENT WITHIN A FEW WEEKS OR EVEN DAYS OF ONE OR ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE WELL IN ADVANCE. GIVEN THE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION IN PARA 1 ABOVE, WE HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING GOP COOPERATION IN VOTING OUR POSITION OR CO-SPONSORING A RESOLUTION. HOWEVER, THE ISSUES FREQUENTLY AT STAKE ARE TECHNICAL AND/OR COMPLEX, AND SUCH LAST-MINUTE APPROACHES SHOULD BE AVOIDED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

(B) IN THIS REGARD WE HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY IMPRESSED BY THE ORCHESTRATED FASHION IN WHICH ADVANCE MATERIALS

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ON LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) MATTERS ARE BEING PROVIDED AND PREPARED IN BOTH ENGLISH AND SPANISH. (SUCH A RELATIVELY SIMPLE MATTER AS THE DEPARTMENT'S PROVIDING BACKGROUND MATERIALS IN THE LOCAL LANGUAGE CAN BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO AN EMBASSY, WHEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE AN URGENT DEMARCHE.)

(C) ANOTHER OPERATIONAL DETAIL TO BE BORNE IN

MIND IS THE POSSIBLE VALUE OF QUIETLY OFFERING TO DEFRAID ANY EXTRAORDINARY COSTS OF GETTING AN LDC DELEGATE TO A CONFERENCE, TO VOTE IN ACCORD WITH USG. MINOR LDCS SUCH AS PARAGUAY ARE SHORTHANDED, AND FREQUENTLY SHORT OF BUDGETED FUNDS, AND SENDING DELEGATIONS TO DISTANT, LENGTHY MEETINGS CAN REPRESENT A REAL SACRIFICE AND DETERRENT TO LDCS WHICH GENERALLY TAKE A NARROW VIEW OF WHAT AFFECTS THEIR VITAL INTERESTS.

4. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 4(E) WE WOULD HOPE THAT WHILE SEEKING TO EXPAND THE TRANSFER OF ASSISTANCE RESOURCES VIA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IT WILL BE KEPT IN MIND THAT OLD-FASHIONED BILATERAL AID, UNDER PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES, CAN BE A MOST EFFECTIVE TOOL WITH AN LDC. EVEN IF NOT PLAYING OUR CARDS ON THE BASIS OF "BENEFITS VERSUS COSTS" (PARA 2 ABOVE, WE BELIEVE THAT ACHIEVEMENT OF VARIOUS USG OBJECTIVES CAN BE FACILITATED BY INCREASING HOST COUNTRY PERCEPTION OF THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE USG AS A SOURCE OF AID. THIS DIMENSION OF OUR ECONOMIC AID TENDS TO BE COMPLETELY LOST, HOWEVER, (AT LEAST IN AN UNSOPHISTICATED LDC SUCH AS PARAGUAY) WHEN US RESOURCES ARE TRANSFERRED VIA SUCH MULTILATERAL CHANNELS AS THE IBRD AND THE IDB.
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